

MUSIC

AWARD RECEIVED - HIGHER

ENTRY LEVEL

The preferred level of entry to Higher Music is an N5 pass at A or B level. Students with an N5 pass at C level may be allocated a place at the discretion of the school. Only in exceptional cases following discussion should someone consider taking Higher Music without having completed the National 5 course.

COURSE CONTENT

The Higher Music course is made up of three units:

- **Performing Skills**

Pupils will develop performance skills in a wide range of styles on 2 instruments (can include voice). Pupils will also self-reflect and evaluate the quality and accuracy of their performing.

- **Composing Skills**

Pupils will analyse how a range of compositional methods and music concepts are used by other composers, experiment with these to develop, refine and create original music and critically reflect on their creative choices and decisions.

- **Understanding Music**

Pupils will listen to a wide variety of different styles of music and learn to identify concepts that they hear, analyse the impact of social and cultural influences on the development of specific music styles and further develop their understanding of musical literacy.

ASSESSMENT

Performing – assessment by a visiting examiner in February or March. Regular recordings and internal assessments will be carried out throughout the course.

Composing – an audio folio of compositions is assessed, along with a reflective log.

Understanding – a question paper requiring an ability to identify concepts learned throughout the course and a thorough knowledge of musical literacy will be given in May. End of topic tests and assignments will be given throughout the course.

HOMEWORK

Pupils will be expected to develop and extend their skills outside the classroom in all three elements of the course. This involves regular practice on their two chosen instruments as well as composing and understanding. Attendance at extra curricular music activities is strongly recommended and will greatly enhance pupils' musical education.

PROGRESSION

Successful completion of the Higher course may lead to Advanced Higher Music.